

Speaker Boehner's Empty Rhetoric on Immigration Reform

Two days after President Obama won re-election in 2012, Speaker Boehner announced that comprehensive immigration reform would be a top bipartisan priority. Fast forward nearly two years later, and House Republicans still have not allowed a single vote to fix our broken immigration system. Here's a look back at Speaker Boehner's empty rhetoric when it comes to taking action on comprehensive immigration reform:

November 8, 2012

“‘This issue has been around far too long,’ Boehner said in the ABC interview. ‘A comprehensive approach is long overdue, and I’m confident that the president, myself, others can find the common ground to take care of this issue once and for all.’” [[The Hill](#), 11/9/12]

May 23, 2013

“‘The House is going to work its will,’ he said. ‘And I’m confident that we’ll have a solid work product that we can go to conference with the Senate.’” [[Washington Post](#), 5/23/13]

October 2, 2013

House Democrats introduce immigration reform bill H.R. 15.

January 30, 2014

“‘It’s important to act on immigration reform because we’re focused on jobs and economic growth, and this is about jobs and growth,’ Boehner said in his pitch in the closed meeting. ‘Reform is also about our national security. The safety and security of our nation depends on our ability to secure our border, enforce our laws, improve channels for legal entry to the country, and identify who is here illegally.’” [[Politico](#), 1/30/14]

January 26, 2013

“‘I said it the day after the election. I meant it, and we’re going to have to deal with [immigration],’ Boehner said. ‘I think there’s a bipartisan group of members that have been meeting now for three or four years. Frankly, I think they basically have an agreement.’” [[The Hill](#), 1/26/13]

June 27, 2013

Senate passes immigration reform with bipartisan support.

November 21, 2013

“‘There are a lot of private conversations that are underway to try to figure out, how do we best move on a common-sense, step-by-step basis to address this very important issue.’” [John Boehner, [Washington Post](#), 11/21/2013]

January 30, 2014

Speaker Boehner introduces immigration principles.

February 4, 2014

Speaker Boehner pulls immigration principles.

April 24, 2014

“‘Here's the attitude. Ohhhh. Don't make me do this. Ohhhh. This is too hard,' Boehner whined before a luncheon crowd at Brown's Run County Club in Madison Township. 'We get elected to make choices. We get elected to solve problems and it's remarkable to me how many of my colleagues just don't want to ... They'll take the path of least resistance.’” [[Cincinnati Enquirer](#), 4/24/14]

May 12, 2014

“‘I do believe the vast majority of our members do want to deal with this.’” [John Boehner, [Roll Call](#), 5/12/14]

May 20, 2014

House Republican leadership blocks their Member's immigration amendment, the ENLIST Act.

May 22, 2014

“‘There's nobody more interested in fixing this problem than I am,' Boehner replied.’” [[Politico](#), 5/27/14]

This week, President Obama announced a delay of the Administration's deportation review, giving Speaker Boehner two months and one more chance to allow the House to work its will and vote on an immigration overhaul. The [majority of Americans](#), [business leaders](#), and [over 30 House Republicans](#) are in support of comprehensive immigration reform, and Speaker Boehner, himself, has acknowledged the need to fix our broken system time and time again. It is long past time to act by allowing a vote on the House Floor.